



# YEAR IN REVIEW 2023

Now all glory to God, who is  
able, through his mighty  
power at work within us, to  
accomplish infinitely more  
than we might ask or think!  
**EPHESIANS 3:20**







I know.



grow.



go.

 NEW WORK  
FELLOWSHIP





a year's overview

# WHERE WE ARE NOW

## If I could sum up 2023 in one word, it would be-- **MOBILIZATION!**

Following the difficult years of 2020-2021, 2022 was a year of restoration. It was like that Old Testament prophet Joel who declared God's promise to restore the years the locusts had eaten. But more than restoration—2023 delivered growth as the church moved forward. This year has been one of those Ephesians 3 years when God declared He can do more than all we ask or imagine!

At the time of this writing, in an unprecedented year, our attendance exceeded 1000 on 23 of the 46 Sundays thus far. 9 of the top 25 highest attendance weeks of all time were in 2023. In addition, New Work Fellowship was recognized at the 2023 Kentucky Baptist Convention for having the sixth highest baptisms in the convention. We've seen 175 step into the water in just the past two years!

And you could say that when it came to missions—in 2023, we found our legs! We were on the GO! We are partnering with more and more local ministries, and Mission Trips took us around the globe.

- Into the Amazon and onto the African coast.
- New partnerships with a church in France and long-term partnerships in Eastern Kentucky.
- And serving back in the heart of Hells Kitchen, New York City.

That's why I say if I had to pick just one word for NWF in 2023, it is MOBILIZATION. You will also see that same spirit reflected in our student and kids ministries.

Our Lord has not only restored—he has called us to mobilize. Our leadership team has invited Goff Companies to come back and partner with us about the future and facility expansion. Five elders/pastors traveled to Dallas to spend a day collaborating with these partners to dream about what's next! So, as we step into 2024, let me request that you pray for our leadership team. With excited attention, we see the importance of mobilization for our entire church as we step into a growing future.

In 2023, we also said some heartfelt goodbyes to the Pitts family, who had served us faithfully for 15 years. It's hard to see friends leave. But do you know what one word I would use to describe Cory and Janey's departure? Yep, you got it: MOBILIZATION. I'm excited to see what God will do in and through them as they obediently step into the next season.

In 2024, I am focused on team building. I'm excited about what I see happening in our team, and I am already overjoyed at what God has done to build our team in just a few months.

- April Oatts has stepped into our missions coordinator role. Her passion and energy for missions impress me!
- And the Lord has already given us two new pastors!
  - Evan Ryan has been called to become our Middle School Pastor (a new role in a vital age group—and the first time we've ever had a Middle School Pastor).
  - Justin Eshenbaugh is called to become our Communications Pastor. He has spent much of this last year working in tandem with Josh Hensley (who not only does worship but assumes most of our communications oversight).
  - These dual hires will be a blessing. Isn't it amazing that these two guys came to us two years ago through the residency, and look what God has done!

And we are not done. The search is on! We continue looking for key pastoral staff as we enter the future. And I am confident God will provide exactly who and what we need, precisely when we need it. After all, He keeps His promises. He has more than restored. He has mobilized His Church.

**KEVIN LEE**  
LEAD PASTOR

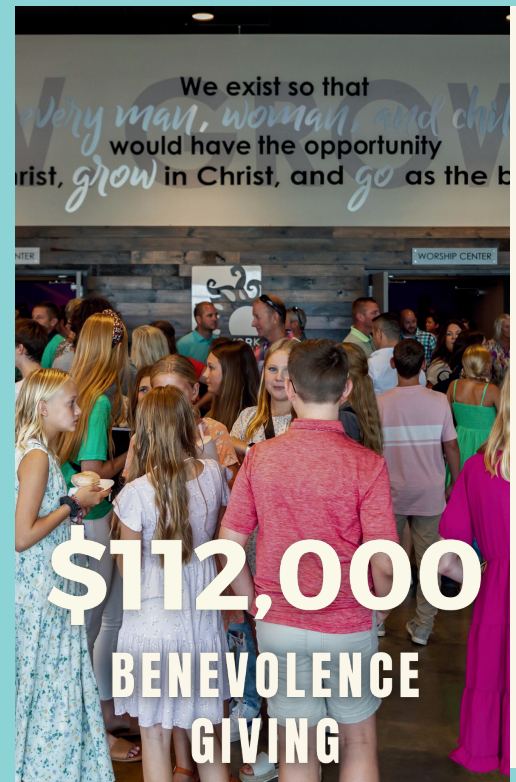




**67**  
**BAPTISMS**



**950**  
**NEW VISITORS**



**\$112,000**  
**BENEVOLENCE  
GIVING**

# KNOW. GROW. GO.


Our church, YOU, made some major moves this year in ministry!

We baptized 67 believers in 2023. Our baptistry was used almost every month! Our First Steps membership class added 48 new members to the New Work family. Our largest class happened in January with 23 participants. We had 950 new visitors in 2023! That's 515 new households coming to a service at our church for the first time. LOTS more first time visitors came to outreach events like Eggstravaganza and Harvest. You also connected with each other in some huge ways through events like Kickoff last January, Food Trucks and Fireworks, Back to School Fiesta, Lakeside Baptism in August, and TWO ministry fairs. One of the biggest things you did this year was provide for each other through benevolence. Your giving to this area of the budget helped 192 families with things like rent, funeral expenses, medical bills, disaster relief, layoffs, utility bills, children's needs, and a dinner honoring First Responders to the Cadiz Blackhawk helicopter crash in March. We started 2023 with \$100,776.68 in our benevolence budget, gave away \$112,372.90, and ended the year with \$4,729.75. That's God-Math at work!

Watching the Kingdom grow and thrive because of your effort is one of New Work's best parts of being on staff. I can't wait to see what's next in the life of our church.

**NIKKI HEISERMAN**  
**CONNECTIONS DIRECTOR**





"WHAT ARE YOU  
WAITING FOR? GET  
UP AND BE BAPTIZED.  
HAVE YOUR SINS  
WASHED AWAY BY  
CALLING ON THE  
NAME OF THE LORD."

ACTS 22:16





# GRACE MARRIAGE PASTORAL CARE



In 2023, Grace Marriage entered into a different way to help couples connect and grow. Instead of a quarterly Saturday morning meeting, Grace Marriage moved to Wednesday nights for intensive and intentional meetings. The curriculum lasted about six weeks, giving couples more opportunities to learn and grow in their marriages. Ten plus couples attended and invested in their marriages for connection and to build a legacy for generations.

Pastoral Care is a tremendous part of what we do as a team here at New Work. From loss to sickness to medical procedures, our pastoral team visits and calls those facing tough times. The visits and follow ups do not end after the hospital stay or the procedures is finished. Our team continues to follow up with you to pray and care for the needs of the church. 2023 saw so much loss and illness, even within our own staff. Connecting our pastors to the people of the church is one of the greatest benefits of the ministry.



## SMALL GROUPS



You have probably heard it said that the small group is where we, as a church family, can do life together. Our adult small groups saw considerable growth in 2023. More and more people began to plug in to groups offered here at New Work! Sunday small groups now take up every room on the adult wing during the second service. The ministry to women uses 6 rooms every Wednesday night to connect and learn from one another. What began in 2022 as 3-4 men meeting to study together has now grown to 15 plus EVERY Wednesday! More requests for small group information came in 2023 than the previous three years. Throughout the year over 30% of adults that attend worship were also active in a small group. Imagine how much more the church could connect if that number was 40 percent or more of the church! Get connected to a small group in 2024!



# RESIDENCY PROGRAM



"The residency not only gives you an avenue to work through your call to ministry, but also a community of people to support you through it."

**-Arielle Evans, Worship Resident**

"My time in the residency program has been incredibly rewarding. I've deepened my faith, built leadership skills, and developed lasting connections."

**-Evan Ryan, Student Ministry Resident**

Following its beginning in 2022, the New Work Fellowship Residency Program has grown and continues to develop those called into local church ministry. The intention is that each resident understands and experiences ministry in a way that equips them to lead New Work and prepare them for where God will call them in the future. As of the end of 2023, we've had four residents enter the residency. While Arielle has completed her year's residency, she stays involved in our worship ministry periodically, leading on Sunday mornings. Tate Wells invests himself in many parts of our worship tech and leading. And as we step into 2024, we excitedly welcome Justin Eshenbaugh and Evan Ryan as two of our new pastors. Likewise, we welcome David Rambo in 2024 as our new Kids Ministry Resident. Pray that God will bless all future residents who enter the program.

## Our 2023 Residents:



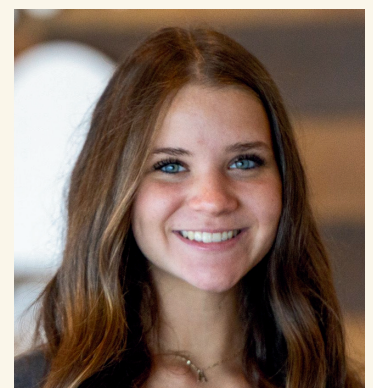
**Evan Ryan**



**Justin Eshenbaugh**



**Tate Wells**



**Arielle Evans**





Over 20 years ago, I sought a new church in a new town. A spiritual mentor told me that if I found a church serious about supporting missions, I would find a growing, thriving church. This is true for New Work Fellowship in 2023! This year, we have been serious about supporting missions. We contributed financially and gave our time, prayers, and hearts as we served our brothers and sisters in Christ locally and worldwide.

We started in January with Out of the Box by packing 50,000 meals for Ukrainian refugees. We continued supporting local ministry partners by donating almost \$10,000 through Connect Cards and helping feed hundreds of families by volunteering with Feeding America. In Matthew 25:36-40, Jesus outlined ways to serve Him by helping His people. Our small groups do this dozens of times each year – sharing food, clothes, drink, and hospitality to meet the physical and heart needs of people in our community.

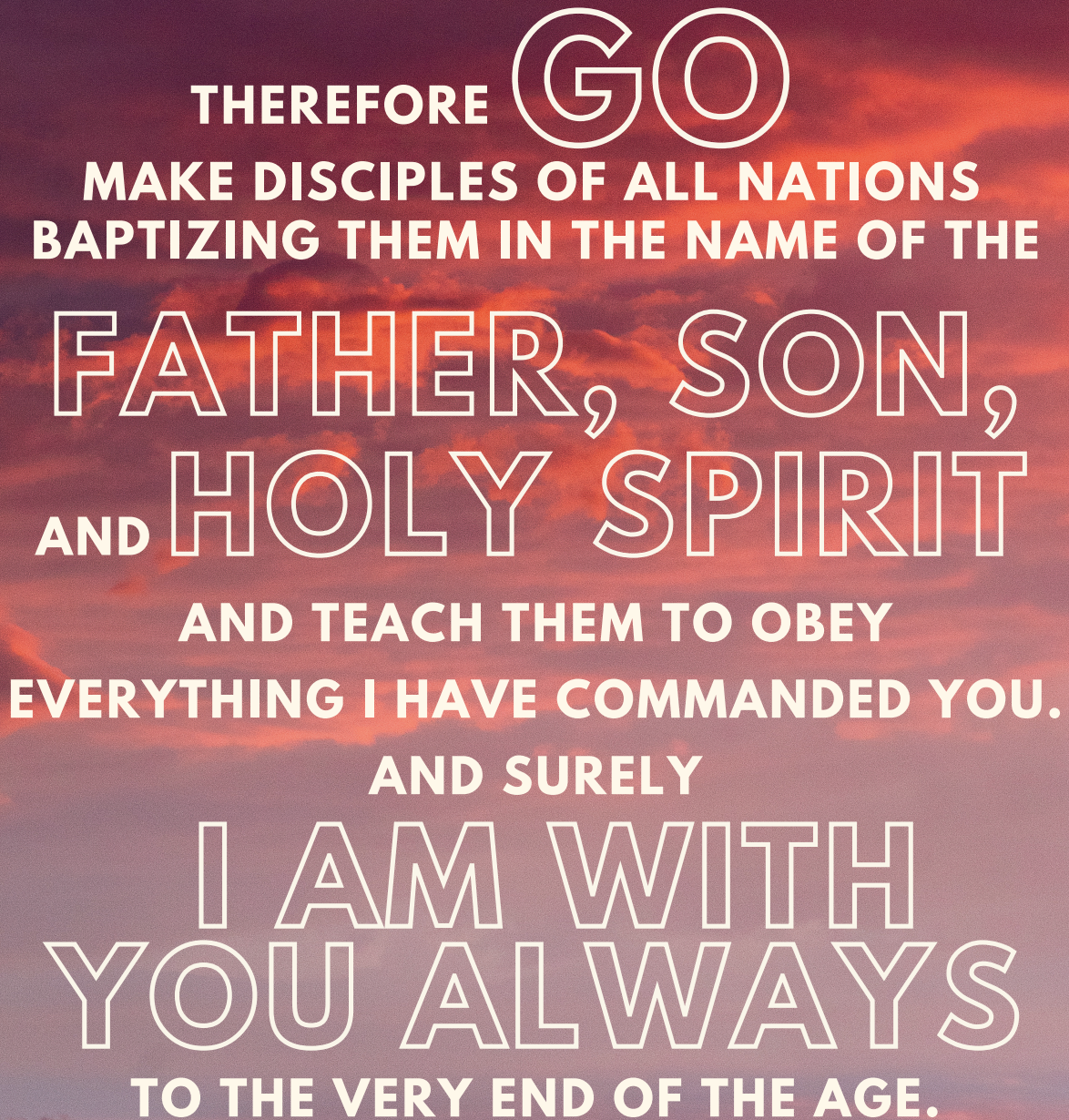
We took Matthew 28:19-20 seriously when Jesus told New Work to GO...we went to Eastern Kentucky, New York City, Vitry, France, Brazil, and Kenya. On these trips, we repaired buildings, provided medical expertise, supported church plants, and taught those around the world new ways to worship Jesus. As we go into 2024, ask the Holy Spirit how the Lord can use you as we continue helping others locally, nationally, and globally.

## APRIL OATTS INTERIM MISSIONS COORDINATOR

NEW WORK, YOU ARE TRULY A NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH,  
GOING INTO ALL THE WORLD FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.  
THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR GIFTS, ABILITIES, RESOURCES, AND,  
MOST IMPORTANTLY, YOUR HEART IN SERVICE TO THE LORD  
JESUS CHRIST. PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY AND SEE WHERE  
THE LORD CALLS YOU TO GO IN 2024!







**THEREFORE GO**  
**MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS**  
**BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE**  
**FATHER, SON,**  
**AND HOLY SPIRIT**  
**AND TEACH THEM TO OBEY**  
**EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU.**  
**AND SURELY**  
**I AM WITH**  
**YOU ALWAYS**  
**TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE.**

**MATTHEW 28:19-20**





Can you say this with me- God is on the MOVE!!! 2023 has been an incredible year of ministry for your NWF Kids Ministry. I am so thankful for a church that invests in and supports the kids' growth in our church and community.

One of the greatest moments of excitement for what God is doing in the Kids Ministry came from this year's Nacho Average Ministry Sunday! That Sunday, the kids wing was bursting at the seams. We had 305 kids in attendance. Experiencing this kind of attendance gave us a glimpse of what God can and is doing as we continue obeying Him. Since then, we have seen constant growth in the Kids Ministry. Our highest attendance on an average Sunday morning was 264 kids.

Over this past year, we have seen 240 new families with kids walk through our doors. God is moving not only numerically but also spiritually. We have witnessed 23 kids come to the saving grace of Jesus Christ and obediently proclaim His name through baptism. VBS 2023 was another great week of growth. We shared the Good News with 331 kids during that week of ministry, and six kids accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Our partnership with Indian Hills Elementary through the Good News Club is also continually growing. This past year, we had 34 kids enrolled, and seven trusted in Jesus, for the first time. This Summer at Kids Camp, we took 76 kids and 18 leaders. While at camp, we had three kids rededicate their lives to the Lord. I can list many more things about how God is moving, but we would be here all day. I am so thankful for the many great opportunities we had to share God's love throughout the last year of ministry, and I can only expect that God will continue to move and do a new work in His people.



**CLIFF HINES**  
KIDS & FAMILY PASTOR





**1400+**

people registered  
**EASTER  
EGGSTAVAGANZA**

**76**

kids  
**WENT TO** *CentriKid*  
**18**  
leaders



**240**

new families  
**WITH KIDS**

**\$5,212**

donated to  
**COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL**

**20** **HEALTH  
BUNDLES**

**23**

kids ministry  
**BAPTISMS**

# NWF Kids

**160**

winter hygiene bags  
given to  
**DINNER CHURCH**

**34**

kids in  
**GOOD NEWS CLUB**  
at Indian Hills  
Elementary

**450**

**OPERATION  
CHRISTMAS CHILD  
boxes**

**300**

average kids

**6**

salvations  
**AT VBS**



# NEW WORK STUDENTS

Student ministry in 2023 has been amazing to be a part of! Last year, we said goodbye to over 30 seniors, and a few short weeks later, we said welcome to that many middle schoolers. This year has been full of growth, and I'm thrilled that Evan Ryan will join the Student Ministry team as our Middle School Pastor starting in January!

Our students had an incredible week at camp! We took 92 to camp, had three salvations, and 43 recommitments to Christ. Four students came to saving faith, 9 expressed a call to ministry, and 14 were baptized. The Students at New Work also served their community; they hosted a night for Special Olympics, made meals for the challenge house, donated over 400 clothing items to those in need, made blankets or veterans, and packed bags for kids in foster care.



**107 HIGHEST WEDNESDAY NIGHT**  
**72 HIGHEST SUNDAY MORNING**  
**92 TAKEN TO CAMP**



**45 ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS**  
**EACH WEEK**



**STEPS OF FAITH**  
**3 SALVATIONS**  
**9 CALLED TO MINISTRY**  
**14 BAPTISM**  
**43 RECOMMITMENTS**

None of these highlights would have been possible without our volunteers; as you know, I've asked our church to pray about God sending us volunteers for student ministry, and He did!!! I've never been more thankful, grateful, and blessed to be able to serve with our student ministry volunteers at New Work, and they are AWESOME! I'm excited about where we've been this year and where we are headed. Specifically, our student houses will get a much-needed facelift in 2024! I'm thrilled for our students to have a space that is up to date and to be theirs! As we approach 2024 for student ministry, would you pray with me that "God would speak to us and that we would listen?"

**MICHAEL SHEARON**  
YOUTH PASTOR



Numbers are interesting and tell a story, much like reading a novel. Some people will tell you that numbers can be manipulated, but consistency is the key to using numbers to tell a story. When Pastor Kevin arrived at New Work in 2008, we began tracking something we called “Reach”- everyone on campus (worship, kids, students, and adults).

In the early days, our Reach number remained steady between 400 and 500 yearly. Then, beginning in 2015, those numbers increased steadily until 2020, when the pandemic hit. In 2021, our Reach number was 693; in 2022 – 908; and now, in 2023, we averaged 1,000 people in attendance on campus each week! We have had 1,000 or more on 24 of the 53 Sundays in 2023.

We also track the highest 25 attendance dates, and we have had 10 of those 25 dates in 2023! Kevin has said, “Where there is health, there is growth.” New Work Fellowship is growing! These numbers reflect people, and people count! We are called to be witnesses in our community to draw people to the church where they can be discipled to Know Christ, to Grow in Christ, and to Go as the Body of Christ. Let’s continue to invite people in 2024 and watch what God will do!

**NWF COMMUNICATION TEAM**

# A YEAR OF GROWTH







# WEEKLY IMPACT

**1000** AVERAGE IN-PERSON  
WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

We've experienced a 10% increase from 2022, and broke the 1,000 average milestone! This is our highest average in-person attendance in the past 16 years of New Work.

**126** AVERAGE ONLINE  
WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

\*\*UNIQUE IP ADDRESSES

While online numbers have decreased over the last few years, we are seeing the balance of more people on campus, in small groups, and involved in mission opportunities. Yet, by the looks of this number, the Gospel message still reaches those who cannot attend.

**689** FIRST-TIME  
VISITORS

Inviting friends, family, co-workers, and others in our community is another way to GO as a church. We are to plant the seeds and allow God to do the sowing. Who will you invite in 2024?

**604** SMALL GROUP  
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

Small groups continue to grow steadily, at a 3% increase in attendance. Are you plugged into a Wednesday or Sunday Small Group? Visit the Next Steps area to find out where to engage in the community.



**GIVE, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU. A GOOD MEASURE, PRESSED DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER AND RUNNING OVER, WILL BE POURED INTO YOUR LAP. FOR WITH THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU.”** **LUKE 6:38**

## **\$2.42M** BUDGET GIVING IN 2023

You've heard it said, "When you give TO New Work, you give THROUGH New Work. Budget giving allows us to make the greatest impact on the everyday ministries and ongoing missions of the church.

## **\$95.4K** COLLECTED FOR MISSIONS

In 2023, the people of New Work continued to show the importance of missions not only through participation but also in your giving. It is a blessing to be able to help fulfill the needs of many of our mission partners throughout the year.

## **\$103K** IN BLESSING CHECKS GIVEN

The Christmas Eve service is always the time when we collect the benevolence offering for the upcoming year. The benevolence offering continues to be blessed by God. Through your generosity, we can bless many in our community in their immediate and great time of need.

God continued to bless us as a church in 2023! Because of that blessing, New Work Fellowship can press forward to impacting our community, nation, and world for the Kingdom of God. The commands of God to be good stewards are clear-- through our giving, our serving, and our going. Looking back over 2023, we see God's faithfulness on display; therefore, when we look forward to 2024, we can trust that He can and will do greater things than we could ever ask or imagine!

Let this Year in Review encourage you that God still works through His church and His people. Pray that God would lead you to where He would have you best plug in and serve here at New Work Fellowship.





THEREFORE WE ARE **CHRIST'S  
AMBASSADORS**- GOD IS MAKING  
HIS APPEAL THROUGH US.

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:20**

**YOU ARE** *sent!*

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW



5050 CANTON PIKE, HOPKINSVILLE, KY | [WWW.NEWWORKFELLOWSHIP.COM](http://WWW.NEWWORKFELLOWSHIP.COM) | 270.887.0989